

NEWS from

Mutual 
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MUTUAL BENEFIT HEALTH & ACCIDENT ASS'N

United 
OF OMAHA
UNITED BENEFIT LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Feb '57

L. E. Thorngren, general legal solicitor for Mutual of Omaha, issued the following statement following Federal Trade Commission Hearing Examiner Lipscomb's decision pertaining to Mutual of Omaha:

"This is a personal opinion of the Examiner and is subject to review by the Commission itself.

"Mutual of Omaha is licensed and supervised by the state insurance departments in all forty-eight states and the District of Columbia and in all other areas outside the continental United States where they do business. The company has faithfully complied with all regulations and requirements of the state insurance authorities and other supervisory bodies wherein it is licensed to do business.

"This proceeding brought more than two years ago came as a complete surprise to us, since we had been advised by a representative of the Federal Trade Commission less than a month before that we were doing a good job.

"The fundamental issue involved in this proceeding is whether the insurance industry is to be regulated by the F.T.C. or whether that regulation should remain with the state insurance departments who have traditionally fully regulated the business of insurance. It is a question of states versus federal regulation. This is a question which must ultimately be determined by the courts."

The Hon: Robert Taylor of Salem, Oregon, president of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, made this comment: "It is surprising and disturbing that the FTC is pursuing these old charges while the question of its jurisdiction is still the

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subject of federal court litigation. This action on the part of an agency of the federal government, in light of the facts that exist, is an unwarranted undermining of public confidence in insurance."

The Hon. Thomas R. Pansing, Lincoln, Nebr., director of insurance of the state of Nebraska, commented, "The state of Nebraska as well as all the other states of the U. S. are contesting the attempt by the Federal Trade Commission to regulate the insurance industry. State insurance departments the nation over are fully capable of continuing to supervise the insurance business as they have done in the past."

Mr. Thorngren commented further: "Mutual of Omaha policyowners have expressed their satisfaction in Mutual of Omaha when in a recent survey 96.49% of the policyowners responding to a questionnaire stated they were satisfied with Mutual of Omaha's overall services. Satisfied policyowners have made Mutual of Omaha the largest company in the world specializing in health and accident insurance. Since organization, more than \$800,000,000 have been paid out in benefits. In 1956 alone, more than 1,000,000 benefit checks were received by Mutual policyowners.

"Mutual of Omaha has pioneered in the field of health and accident insurance under high ethical standards and at all times has maintained practices consistent with the best interests of the public and its policyowners."